



# Bay Area

PRESBYTERIAN

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 31, 2023

[www.bapc.org](http://www.bapc.org) | 281.280.0713 | [bapc@bapc.org](mailto:bapc@bapc.org)

# Order of Worship

December 31, 2023

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;  
to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
to all who struggle and desire victory;  
to all who sin and need a Savior;  
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;  
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
and to all who will come,  
this church opens wide her doors  
and offers welcome  
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

## REFLECTIONS

I believe though I do not comprehend, and I hold by faith what I cannot grasp with the mind.  
-Bernard of Clairvaux

Faith does not operate in the realm of the possible. There is no glory for God in that which is  
humanly possible. Faith begins where man's power ends.  
-George Muller

Most Christians salute the sovereignty of God but believe in the sovereignty of man.  
-R.C. Sproul

## WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

————— TIME OF PRAISE —————

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 29

Leader: Ascribe to the LORD, you heavenly beings,  
**People: Ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.**  
Leader: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.  
**People: The LORD gives strength to his people;  
the LORD blesses his people with peace.  
Thanks be to God!**

## HYMN OF ADORATION\*

Trinity Hymnal #2 (1,2,4,5)

*O Worship the King*

## PRAYER OF ADORATION

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

*As a courtesy, please set all communication devices to silent. Thank you.*

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## DOXOLOGY\*

*All ye who are of tender heart,  
forgiving others, take your part  
O sing ye, alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,  
praise God and on him cast your care*

*O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*Let all things their Creator bless,  
and worship him in humbleness,  
O praise him, alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
and praise the Spirit, three in one,*

*O praise him, O praise him,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

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TIME OF RENEWAL

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## CALL TO RENEWAL

Romans 8:38-39

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## CONFESSION OF SIN

Our Father, we cry out to you as your people who are sitting in the depths. On the surface, we profess to have it all together. We deceive ourselves by claiming we have mastered our lives through our competence. We have distanced ourselves from pain and disappointment through deep cynicism. We confess to you this desperate attempt to maintain control of our lives. We agree, and do not deny, that our anxieties, fears and insecurities flow from our mistrust of you, our faithful Father. Because your love for us is stronger than our distrust of you, and because you forsook your Son on that cross so that you would never forsake us, we come humbly yet boldly before you. Father, forgive us, heal us, and transform us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

## PRIVATE CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

## WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Hosea 14:1-4

Return, Israel, to the LORD your God. Your sins have been your downfall! Take words with you and return to the LORD. Say to him: "Forgive all our sins and receive us graciously, that we may offer the fruit of our lips. Assyria cannot save us; we will not mount warhorses. We will never again say 'Our gods' to what our own hands have made, for in you the fatherless find compassion."

"I will heal their waywardness and love them freely, for my anger has turned away from them.

## HYMN OF RESPONSE\*

*In Christ Alone*

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TIME OF COMMITMENT

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## TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Giving an offering is one way for members and friends of BAPC to support the church's mission and ministry. If you are our guest today, please do not feel under any obligation to give.*

Online  
*Please visit  
bapc.org/give*

Cash or Check  
*Lobby box or mailed  
to the church office*

Text Message  
*Text "Give" to  
833-921-6502*

## CHORAL ANTHEM

arr. Forrest

*He Is Born*

## DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

*Children ages 4 years through 2nd grade are invited to attend Children's Church in Room 103. If you and your child have not yet received matching security tags, please accompany them to the table in the lobby for check-in.*

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## SCRIPTURE

2 Kings 5:1-19

5 Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master and in high favor, because by him the LORD had given victory to Syria. He was a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper. <sup>2</sup>Now the Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little girl from the land of Israel, and she worked in the service of Naaman's wife. <sup>3</sup>She said to her mistress, "Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." <sup>4</sup>So Naaman went in and told his lord, "Thus and so spoke the girl from the land of Israel." <sup>5</sup>And the king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel."

So he went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing. <sup>6</sup>And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, “When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you Naaman my servant, that you may cure him of his leprosy.”

<sup>7</sup>And when the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, “Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Only consider, and see how he is seeking a quarrel with me.”

<sup>8</sup> But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent to the king, saying, “Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come now to me, that he may know that there is a prophet in Israel.” <sup>9</sup> So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and stood at the door of Elisha’s house.

<sup>10</sup> And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, “Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean.” <sup>11</sup> But Naaman was angry and went away, saying, “Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call upon the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper.

<sup>12</sup>Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?” So he turned and went away in a rage. <sup>13</sup>But his servants came near and said to him, “My father, it is a great word the prophet has spoken to you; will you not do it? Has he actually said to you, ‘Wash, and be clean?’” <sup>14</sup>So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

<sup>15</sup>Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and he came and stood before him. And he said, “Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel; so accept now a present from your servant.” <sup>16</sup>But he said, “As the LORD lives, before whom I stand, I will receive none.” And he urged him to take it, but he refused. <sup>17</sup>Then Naaman said, “If not, please let there be given to your servant two mule loads of earth, for from now on your servant will not offer burnt offering or sacrifice to any god but the LORD. <sup>18</sup>In this matter may the LORD pardon your servant: when my master goes into the house of Rimmon to worship there, leaning on my arm, and I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, when I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, the LORD pardon your servant in this matter.” He said<sup>d</sup> to him, “Go in peace.”

## MESSAGE

*Elder Mike Bliss*

*Trust and Obey*

## HYMN OF RESPONSE\*

Trinity Hymnal #253 (1,2,3,5)

*There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood*

## BENEDICTION\*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Welcome! We are glad you are here with us today.  
To find out more about our upcoming events, studies, and more  
please visit [bapc.org/announcements](http://bapc.org/announcements)**

Today	No Sunday School (All Ages)	9am
Today	Donuts & Coffee Fellowship	10am
Today	Undeck the Halls	12pm
1/1	Church Office Closed	
1/7	Communion Sunday	10:30am
1/7	Sunday Supper	5:30pm

*Please note that there will be a church-wide Sunday School break from December 17-31, 2023.  
Sunday school will resume on January 7, 2024 at 9am for all ages.*



### **Undeck the Halls, Today at 12pm**

Join us after worship today as we put away our Christmas décor and fellowship together! Pizza, fruit, cookies, and lemonade will be served.



### **New Adult Sunday School Class: Putting Our Bibles Together, Begins January 7th**

Join us on Sunday mornings beginning January 7th at 9am as Chris D'Souza leads us in a new adult Sunday School series. This class will investigate eleven key Old Testament passages that play a central role in understanding the Person and Work of Christ so that we can get over our fear of the Old Testament and learn the central themes of the Bible, from one end to the other.



### **Sunday Supper, January 7th at 5:30pm**

Grow in community with us at our monthly fellowship dinner! A variety of soups will be served as the main dish. RSVP at [bapc.org/announcements](http://bapc.org/announcements). Please consider signing up to bring a side dish or dessert. We hope to see you there!

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## VOLUNTEER ROTATION

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### **Elder of the Day**

Today: Curtis Briggs

### **Deacon of the Day**

Today: Dennis Radford  
Next Week: David Kelley

### **Coffee & Donuts**

Today: Dennis Radford  
Next Week: Clay McCarty

### **Infant Nursery**

Today: TBD  
Next Week: TBD

### **Greeters**

Today: Sandy Tuck + Gracie Briggs  
Next Week: Cathy Mahlstedt + Kris Benavides

### **Communion Preparation**

January: Kathryn Felts  
February: Linda Hendrickson

### **Toddler Nursery**

Today: Sidor Family  
Next Week: TBD

### **Children's Church**

Today: Sam + Josh Kroese  
Next Week: TBD

**MEN'S MINISTRY**



**Men's Evening Bible Study  
Friday, January 19th at 7pm**

Start the new year with a renewed sense of purpose and direction, anchored in the teachings of Christ. Together, we'll delve into the "I Am" statements of Christ. Join us in Room 88 for a look at Jesus, the Bread of Life.



**Men's Fellowship Breakfast  
Saturday, January 27th at 8am**

Men, college age and up, are invited to join us for breakfast, a short devotional, and fellowship in Room 88. Grow in

community with the men of BAPC and be strengthened in your relationship with Christ!

**YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**



**Youth Group Break  
December 20th, 27th, & January 3rd**

Our youth group is taking a festive break on December 20th, 27th, and January 3rd. We'll be back with renewed energy on

January 10th, ready for exciting adventures in the new year. Enjoy the holidays and see you in 2024!

**WOMEN'S MINISTRY**



**Chronological Bible Reading Plan  
Beginning January 1st**

Read through the Bible in a year with us through the Daily Grace Co Bible reading plan! You can join online for free in

the YouVersion app or purchase the books from [thedailygraceco.com](http://thedailygraceco.com). If you already participate in YouVersion devotionals with our Women of the Way ministry, look for an invitation from Marcy Ramsey! Looking to get started? Please contact Marcy or the church office.



**Spiritually Fit  
Beginning January 10th**

Exercise your Bible study muscles with us in 2024! Join Marilyn Smith and Amy Antill as they share years of knowledge and practical tools to help you dig into the Word during this 4-session workshop. Sign up at the Women of the Way table in the lobby or at [bapc.org/women](http://bapc.org/women).

**MISSIONS UPDATE**



During the month of December, as we join together in prayer for all of our supported missionaries, we invite you to visit [bapc.org/missions](http://bapc.org/missions) to view their bios and sign up for their email newsletters.



**2024 BAPC Mission Trip  
Spring Break**

Missed the informational Microsoft Teams meeting? Contact Kathy Felts or the church office for a recording!

**NEHEMIAH PROJECT**

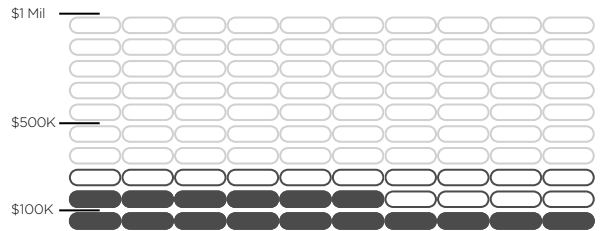
**Initial Goal Period  
November 2023-2024**

Amount Pledged: \$306,670

Amount Received: \$162,418

Current Mortgage Balance: \$895,635

*Additional principal payments will be made on the last day of each month.*



Pledged      Received  
Pledge Cards Collected: 16

**Nursery**

Toddler Nursery, Room 108

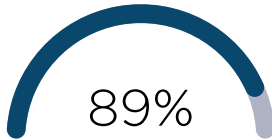
Infant Nursery, Room 106

*Please note, there will be a church-wide Sunday School break from December 17-31, 2023.*

GIVING UPDATE

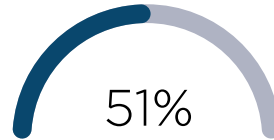
**Monthly Giving**

December Giving Goal: \$64,411  
December Actual Giving: \$57,247  
Amount Under: (\$7,164)



**Annual Giving**

July 2023-June 2024 Annual Budget Goal: \$682,760  
Received as of 12/24/23: \$349,961  
Amount Needed to Reach Annual Goal: (\$332,799)  
Year To Date Budget Shortfall: (\$0)



STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Chris Yates, Pastor  
Kaitlin Fenner, Director of Business Operations  
Whitney Kelley, Director of Communications & Media  
Traci Lewis, Director of Accounting  
Hannah Stahl, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries  
Kathy Wright, Director of Choirs

**Elders**

Mike Bliss  
Curtis Briggs  
Chris D'Souza  
Mike Smith

**Deacons**

John Cover  
David Kelley  
Dennis Radford  
Steve Ramsey